(b) how Government plan to help the garment exporters in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) Some consignments of garments under EU categories 4, 6 and 26 whose estimated value is around Rs. 40 crores have been held up in EU ports as annual levels for 1998 in respect of these categories had been exceeded. A delegation of the Apparel Export Promotion Coucil had been sent to Europe in this regard. The matter has also been taken up bilaterally with the European Commission as well as with EU Member States. In the meantime, fresh 1999 quotas are being issued for any consignment coming back to India and the customs authorities have taken steps for prompt clearance of any such goods for the purpose of re-export to Europe.

Production capacity of textiles in Gujarat

918. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Textile Mills in Gujarat and their capacity for production of textiles, as on date;

(b) what is the required capacity to meet the demand and the funds required;

(c) the specific steps taken to achieve the desired results, including participation of the private sector; and

(d) the success achieved therein?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) As on 31.12.1998, there were 144 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills in Gujarat with the following installed capacity:—

Spindles	Rotors	Looms
4114810	31200	44920

(b) and (d) Most of the cloth production is in the private sector and Government do not provide funds for running the private sector mills. The per capita availability of cloth in the country has increased from 17.30 Sq. metres in 1980-81 to 30.78 Sq. metres in 1997-98. Per capita consumption, on the other hand, has increased from 13.43 metres in 1980 to 14.40 metres in 1993. Various steps have been taken by the Government to increase the production and availability of cloth to the people including simplification of procedures for obtaining industrial license, removal of many controls and regulations, and bottlenecks in export promotion. All these measures contributed to the increase in production of cloth. The fact that the per capita availability and consumption of cloth is going up can be taken as an index of success of the measures taken.

Export earnings from textiles

919. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) The export earnings from the textile annually during the last three years; and

(b) what steps have been taken/are proposed to be taken by the Government to increase such earnings in future?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) The foreign exchange earned from exports of textiles, including handicrafts, jute and coir during the last three years has been as follows:

Year	Value in million US $
1995-96	10,685.07
1996-97	11,839.13
1997-98	12,389.91

(b) In order to encourage the export of textiles, Government have been taking a number of steps, which include encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets, fairs and exhibitions,